



# Steenkamp cracks 20-year SA record

## ATHLETICS

By DAVID ISAACSON

EVEN making mistakes in her race, University of Pretoria student Rikenette Steenkamp finally broke the 20-year-old South African 100m hurdles record on Monday night.

She finished second at the Josef Odlozil Memorial in Prague to clock 12.90sec and slice 0.04sec off the 12.94 mark Corien Botha set in July 1998.

Former world junior champion Elvira Herman of Belarus won in a personal best 12.69.

"To at long last break Corien Botha's record was amazing," Steenkamp said in a press release issued by Tuks Sport.

"I have dreamt doing so for the previous seven years. What ex-



RIKENETTE STEENKAMP

cites me is that it was not the perfect race," she said.

"My technique going over the first four hurdles was possibly the best I have ever done. But I was coming so fast onto the hurdles that it led to me losing a bit of rhythm."

Steenkamp came close to the

mark last season, twice dipping under 13 seconds.

She went 12.99 in Ostrava and then hit 12.92, only to be denied the SA record by illegal wind assistance of 2.1m per second (mps). The legal limit is 2mps.

At the same meet Antonio Alkana came second in the men's 110m hurdles in 13.42; Zarek Visser was second in the men's long jump with an 8m leap; Cornel Fredericks was third in the men's 400m hurdles in 49.42 and Sokwakhana Zazini fourth in 49.56.

Henricho Bruintjies was fourth in the men's 100m in 10.11 and Thando Roto fifth in 10.17; Orazio Cremona sixth in the men's shotput with a heave of 20.45m; Zakithi Nene was sixth in the men's 400m in 46.82; and, Gena Lofstrand 12th in the women's 800m in 2min 06.62sec. — DDC

